

**"I have called you by name,
you are mine"
Isaiah, 43:1**

EXPLORING LICENSED LAY MINISTRY



**Diocese
of Salisbury**
Making
Jesus Known

What is a Licensed Lay Minister?

God calls every baptised Christian into ministry and equips them to work together with others as the Body of Christ. This is about much more than their involvement within and around the church buildings or activities. It's about what they do and what they are as Christians, seven days a week.

A licensed and trained minister works to equip laypeople – the people of God – to be the church out in the world, living for Christ.

Licensed Lay Ministers are identified, trained, and licensed by the Bishop from a wide diversity of occupations and backgrounds and provide a vital link to the world of work, witnessing to the unchanging love of God in their communities and in their everyday lives.

How an individual's ministry develops is dependent upon their individual strengths, the balance of skills within the ministry team and the particular needs of the benefice. Some may have a focus on leading worship; others may be more involved in pastoral work or outreach. In some cases their ministry is rooted in the community or in the workplace rather than in the life of the local church.

Licensed lay ministry is nationally recognised and those admitted to the office of Licensed Lay Minister in one diocese are welcomed upon relocation to another.

Could it be You?

Are you someone who:

- Loves God and has a thorough knowledge of God's story?
- Loves people and knows how to listen?
- Loves learning and helping other people learn?

If the answers are yes, then have a chat to your church ministers and those who know you well, attend a diocesan Explorers event, or contact the Vocations Coordinator.

Discernment and Training

A vocations adviser will work with you to help you discern if this is where God is calling you at this time, before you make a more formal application to the Lay Ministry Development Officer to be considered for training. You would spend a Saturday in June/July at a Discernment Day and those who are selected begin a two-year blended learning course at Sarum College in the autumn.

- Learning in community, in college.
- Personal learning, what you do at home individually.
- Learning in context, in your local church.

It is intended that people should be able to follow the course even while working full-time, provided you can set aside around 12 hours a week for study during term-times.

What can I do next?

- Ask God in prayer how you may become all that God intends you to be. What are the gifts and experiences God has given you that could be used for the Kingdom?
- Speak to people who know you well and who you trust. Speak to your parish priest or chaplain and begin to explore your vocation with them.
- Look to see what vocations events are running. These will be advertised in Grapevine and on the Diocesan Website.
- Contact the Diocesan Vocations Coordinator to hear about other ways in which we can support you to further explore your Vocation.
- Explore our other leaflets and resources at www.salisbury.anglican.org/missionandministry

Contact us

vocations@salisbury.anglican.org

www.salisbury.anglican.org